

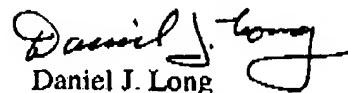
errors, such as error syndromes, is stored in the non-volatile memory. Preferably, during each operating session, the area of the non-volatile memory designated for this type of storage is copied into volatile memory. The volatile memory is updated during the operating session and then copied back to the non-volatile memory when the operating session is terminated. Technicians may access the non-volatile memory to study the error history for diagnostic or design purposes.

Applicants distinguish their invention from Porter as follows.

First, the method of the present invention relates to replaceable components used on air, land, or sea vehicles. Porter, on the other hand, relates to memory controllers used on a host processor. Applicants contend that air, land and sea vehicles and memory controllers on processors are non-analogous arts. It would not, therefore, have been obvious for applicants to adapt teaching from Porter to a problem relating to gathering reliability data on replacement components used on air, land, or sea vehicles.

Secondly, an object of the method of the present invention is to obtain reliability data on types of replaceable components used on air, land, or sea vehicles. As applicants understand Porter, on the other hand, the purpose of its method is to allow a repair technician to easily isolate errors in order to make effective modification to a specific individual memory controller to avoid future failures on that specific, individual memory. As applicant understands Porter, no attempt is made to collect reliability data for a general type of memory controller, which may explain why Porter does not use a database to record data.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date of Signature  
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